

Message Text

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SUBJECT: 24TH COMMISSION FOR SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT(CSD)--

SOCIAL INDICATORS (ITEM 13) AND UNIFIED APPROACH TO

DEVELOPMENT PLANNING (ITEM 11)

1. SUMMARY. NINE DELS COMMENTED ON THE COMBINED SOCIAL INDICATORS/UNIFIED APPROACH TO DEVELOPMENT. EGYPT DELIVERED ATTACK ON DEVELOPED NATIONS AND THE ELITE OF DEVELOPING COUNTRIES. END SUMMARY.

2. FRENCH REP TUROT OPENED THE SECOND MEETING ON THIS ITEM WITH HIGHLY CRITICAL COMMENTS ON THE UNIFIED APPROACH AND SOCIAL INDICATORS. HE COMPLAINED ABOUT LACK OF STATISTICAL TABLES IN THE DOCUMENT ON SOCIAL INDICATORS, AND SUPPORTED NIGERIA'S CONTENTION THAT INDICATORS CANNOT BE USED SUCCESSFULLY IN DEVELOPING COUNTRIES. HE SAID THERE WAS NEED FOR FURTHER STUDY OF SOCIAL INDICATORS; NEED FOR OUTPUT INDICATORS FOR VARIOUS ENVIRONMENTS AND A NEED FOR SOCIAL INDICATORS THAT QUANTIFY. AFTER BEING CRITICIZED IN TURN BY ITALIAN REP FOR BEING TOO PESSIMISTIC AND CRITICAL, TUROT REPORTED THAT PESSIMISM WAS JUSTIFIED IN FACE OF CONTINUING POVERTY, SICKNESS, DESPAIR. RETURNING TO SOCIAL INDICATORS, HE STATED THAT, WHEN PRESENTED WITH NEW DEVELOPMENT TOOL, FRANCE WANTED TO

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KNOW IF IT WORKED OR NOT AND HOW TO USE IT; HAD ITS EFFECTIVENESS

BEEN PROVED? THEORY, HE STATED, SHOULD BE CHECKED AGAINST PRACTICE AND OLD METHODS SHOULD NOT BE ABANDONED UNTIL NEW ONES HAD PROVED THEIR WORTH.

3. THE US REP (PICKER) STATED THAT THE UNIFIED APPROACH WAS A METHODOLOGY WHICH EXPERTS BELIEVE WILL ASSIST COUNTRIES TO ANALYZE AND BETTER MEET THEIR NATIONAL GOALS OF DEVELOPMENT. SHE EXPRESSED THE HOPE THAT FOR FUTURE PROGRAMMING ESA SECT WOULD COMPILE A RECORD OF PRACTICAL EXPERIENCE OF COUNTRIES IN IMPLEMENTING THE VARIOUS STRATEGIES RECOMMENDED IN THE REPORT ON THE UNIFIED APPROACH. IN COMMENTING ON POPULAR PARTICIPATION US REP SUGGESTED THAT PEOPLE WHO ARE TO RECEIVE THE BENEFITS OF DEVELOPMENT SHOULD PARTICIPATE IN THE PLANNING. THIS, SHE ADDED, IS ALSO A PART OF THE UNIFIED APPROACH. DEP SAID THAT WHILE SOCIAL INDICATORS, LIKE ECONOMIC INDICATORS, ARE NOT ENDS IN THEMSELVES, THEY MAY HELP IN MEASURING SOCIAL PROGRESS. MRS. PICKER CONCLUDED BY NOTING THAT THE WORLD SOCIAL SITUATION REPORT, ITEMS ON POPULAR PARTICIPATION, THE UNIFIED APPROACH AND SOCIAL INDICATORS ARE REALLY COMPONENTS OF ONE THEME--SOCIAL PROGRESS--AND IN THE FUTURE SHOULD BE CONSIDERED AS A WHOLE.

4. FINLAND, CHILE, ITALY AND DOMINICAN REPUBLIC NOTED THAT WHILE SOCIAL INDICATORS WERE THEORETICAL, THEY COULD AND SHOULD BE IMPROVED TO HELP MEASURE SOCIAL PROGRESS. DELS EXPRESSED OPTIMISM ABOUT THE USE OF THE UNIFIED APPROACH AND SUGGESTED THAT IT BE USED WORLDWIDE. CHILE DEL SAID THAT NATIONAL BUDGETS SHOULD REFLECT INTEGRATED DEVELOPMENT. THIS WAS A WAY TO ASSURE THAT SOCIAL PROGRAMS WERE NOT NEGLECTED.

5. EGYPTIAN REP (KHALIFA) IN USUAL LENGTHY INTERVENTION SAID THE WHOLE WORLD MUST BE INTEGRATED TO ERASE THE GAP BETWEEN DEVELOPED AND DEVELOPING COUNTRIES. HE CONTINUED BY STATING THAT OVER-DEVELOPMENT MEANT OVER EXPLOITATION. THE DEVELOPED WORLD USES ENERGY FOR GROWTH. IN THE PAST THEY PURCHASED OIL AT ALMOST FREE PRICES AND PROSPERED. DEL SAID THAT ONE INTEGRATED WORLD WOULD MEAN NO EXPLOITATION. THE UNIFIED APPROACH SHOULD BE A WORLD PLAN WITH INTERDEPENDENCY STRESSED. HE COMPLAINED THAT THE DEVELOPED WORLD HAD SPENT \$230 BILLION ON ARMS WHICH SHOULD HAVE BEEN APPLIED TO ASSISTING THE DEVELOPING WORLD. IN DISCUSSING UNCLASSIFIED

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NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT KHALIFA SAID THAT ECONOMISTS HAD INTRODUCED THE DUALISTIC THEORY AND ITS IMPLEMENTATION HAD SEPARATED THE RURAL FROM THE URBAN AREAS. ENTREPRENEURS HAD EMERGED IN URBAN CENTERS TO EXPLOIT THE POOR. THIS HAD LED TO CLASS DISTINCTIONS AND CREATED THE ELITE. HE SAID THE DUALISTIC APPROACH TO DEVELOPMENT HAD SACRIFICED SOCIAL JUSTICE. KHALIFA ALSO CRITICIZED THE KIND OF EDUCATION WHICH DEPERSONALIZED PEOPLE AND DIVORCED THEM FROM THE REAL ISSUES. THIS, HE SAID, ALSO HELPS BUILD

AN ELITE AND THE ELITE SETTLE FOR POWER INSTEAD OF DEVELOPMENT. DEL CONCLUDED HIS STATEMENT BY NOTING THAT ASWAN DAM HAD CREATED SOME SOCIAL PROBLEMS BUT MOSTLY IT HAD IMPROVED THE LIVES OF MOST PEOPLE IN THE REGION SINCE SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT WAS INCLUDED IN THE PLAN. HE THANKED THE USSR FOR ASSISTING EGYPT IN THE PROJECT.

6. UKRAINIAN DEL COMPLAINED THAT THE AUTHORS OF THE UNIFIED APPROACH HAD BEEN SURPRISED BY THE SIZE OF THE TASK AND HASTILY WRITTEN A THEORETICAL REPORT. USSR INTERVENTION WAS LESS CRITICAL OF THE REPORT. AGREED WITH OTHER DELS THAT ECONOMIC GROWTH BY NO MEANS NECESSARILY ENTAILS IMPROVEMENT IN SOCIAL SITUATION. HE SAID THERE MUST BE A PURPOSEFUL EFFORT TO IMPROVE THE SOCIAL STATUS OF THE MASSES. DEL THEN SPOKE OF USSR AND NOTED HIS COUNTRY WAS A PIONEER IN PLANNING AND CARRYING OUT THE UNIFIED APPROACH. HE SAID THE METHODOLOGY CAN ONLY BE APPLIED WHERE THERE IS A COMMITMENT TO USING ALL AVAILABLE RESOURCES TO MAKE IT WORK. IT ALSO REQUIRES CONSTANT ATTENTION. HE CONCLUDED BY RECOMMENDING THAT THE SECT REPORT BE MADE AVAILABLE TO PLANNERS.

7. IN FURTHER INTERVENTION CAO PINNA (ITALY) SUGGESTED THAT "INTEGRATED" WOULD BE BETTER WORD THAN "UNIFIED." FRENCH REP TUROT SOFTENED HIS REPLY TO CAO PINNA ON BROADER ISSUES BY AGREEING WITH HER ON THIS POINT, AS DID NIGERIA.

8. CANADIAN OBSERVER DESCRIBED AT SOME DETAIL HER COUNTRY'S ADVANCED WORK IN COMPILING SOCIAL INDICATORS WHILE NOTING THAT GOVERNMENT OF CANADA HAD NOT COMMITTED ITSELF TO ANY LINE OF ACTION BASED ON THEM.

9. DEBATE WAS CONCLUDED BY UNRISD REP MCGRANAHAN WHO THANKED DELS FOR HELPFUL COMMENTS AND BY WALTERS OF CDPPT WHO EXPLAINED THAT SOCIAL INDICATORS MUST BE USED AS A MEANS OF EXPERIENCE AND KNOW-
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LEDGE, TAKING ACCOUNT OF DIFFERING SOCIETAL STRUCTURES, INSTITUTIONS AND NATIONAL GOALS.
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